Amendments to the Claims:

1.   (Original)   A method for transmitting data packets in a lossy environment, comprising:

transmitting a first data packet with a full header;

transmitting a second data packet with a compressed header, which compressed header includes differences based upon the full header of the first data packet; and

transmitting a third data packet with a compressed header, the compressed header of the third data packet including differences in the header of the third data packet as compared to the first data packet.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1 further including the step of transmitting a fourth data packet, the fourth data packet having a compressed header whose differences are based upon the first ~~signals'~~ data packet's full header.

3.   (Original) A method for receiving and interpreting data packets, comprising

receiving a first data packet having a full header;

receiving a second data packet having a compressed header whose differences are based upon the full header of the first packet; and

receiving a third data packet having a compressed header, which compressed header is based upon differences with the full header of the first data packet.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 3, further including the step of receiving a fourth data packet having a compressed header based upon the full header of the first data packet.

5.   (Original) The method of claim 3, further comprising the step of receiving a data packet with errors, and upon determining that the data packet has errors, discarding the data packet.

Claims 6 – 11. (Canceled)

12. (Original) A plurality of communication signals, comprising a first communication signal transmitted in an uncompressed format having a full header;

a second communication signal having a compressed header, which compressed header specifies differences between its header in an uncompressed format and the full header of the first data packet; and

a third communication signal having a compressed header, which compressed header specifies differences between a full header for the third communication signal and the full header of the first communication signal.

13. (Currently Amended) The communication signals of claim 12, wherein the second and third communication signals further include uncompressed header information for those portions of a header that could not be compressed ~~and for which differences with the full header of the first communication signal could not be specified~~.

14. (Original) The communication signals of claim 13, further comprising a byte for specifying whether the communication signal has a compressed or uncompressed header.

15. (Currently Amended) The communication signal of claim 13, further comprising at least one byte for identifying ~~the~~ an Internet protocol version format that defines the signal layout.